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Europäisches
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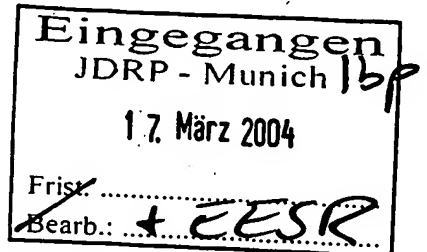
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17.03.04

Zelchen/Ref./Réf. J100172EP MR	Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°. 03023676.4-1246-
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire Research In Motion Limited	

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

☒ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

☒ abstract

☒ title

☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract:

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REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.CI.7)
X	US 2003/158609 A1 (CHIU TOM) - 21 August 2003 (2003-08-21)	1-10, 15-18	H04M1/73
Y	* the whole document *	14	
Y	US 5 600 230 A (DUNSTAN ROBERT A) - 4 February 1997 (1997-02-04)	14	
A	* abstract *	11-14, 19-22	
X	JP 2002 017047 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD) 18 January 2002 (2002-01-18)	1,2,5-8, 10,15,17	
A	* the whole document *	3,4,18	
X	US 2002/082059 A1 (HASHIZUME HIROSHI ET - AL) 27 June 2002 (2002-06-27)	1,2, 5-10, 15-17	
A	* paragraph '0054! - paragraph '0067!; figures 11-14 *	3,4,18	
X	US 2001/023198 A1 (MUTO TAKASHI) - 20 September 2001 (2001-09-20)	1-10, 15-18	
A	* the whole document *		
X	US 2002/177475 A1 (PARK WON HYUNG) - 28 November 2002 (2002-11-28)	1-4, 7-10, 15-18	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.CI.7) H04M G06F
A	* the whole document *		
A	US 5 964 879 A (SILVESTER KELAN ET AL) - 12 October 1999 (1999-10-12)	1-22	
A	* the whole document *		
A	US 2002/147037 A1 (KWON SEONG TAE) - 10 October 2002 (2002-10-10)	1-10, 15-18	
	* paragraph '0009! *		
	* paragraph '0012! *		
	* paragraph '0024! - paragraph '0027!; figures 1,2 *		
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 11 March 2004	Examiner Ayala Perriello, M-P
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			
T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ----- & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
A	US 2001/029196 A1 (WAKAMATSU KIICHIROU) / 11 October 2001 (2001-10-11) * the whole document * -----	1-10, 15-18	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 11 March 2004	Examiner Ayala Perriello, M-P
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 03 02 3676

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

11-03-2004

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 2003158609	A1	21-08-2003	WO	03071407 A1	28-08-2003
US 5600230	A	04-02-1997	NONE		
JP 2002017047	A	18-01-2002	NONE		
US 2002082059	A1	27-06-2002	JP	2002199062 A	12-07-2002
US 2001023198	A1	20-09-2001	JP GB	2001268183 A 2360598 A , B	28-09-2001 26-09-2001
US 2002177475	A1	28-11-2002	KR	2002090461 A	05-12-2002
US 5964879	A	12-10-1999	AU EP WO	4519596 A 0799442 A1 9619764 A1	10-07-1996 08-10-1997 27-06-1996
US 2002147037	A1	10-10-2002	KR CN	2002078235 A 1380808 A	18-10-2002 20-11-2002
US 2001029196	A1	11-10-2001	JP	2001352396 A	21-12-2001



This application is covered by the extended European search report pilot project at present running within the European Patent Office, applied to all European patent applications filed as first filing and searched on or after 01.07.03. Under this project the EPO issues together with the search report an opinion on whether the application and the invention to which it relates meet the requirements of the EPC. This non-binding opinion is issued free of charge as a service. This opinion may be used as the basis for an informed decision as to whether it is desired to pursue the application further or not.

For further details of this pilot project, the applicant's attention is directed to the Official Journal edition 5/2003. If any further immediate questions or comments arise the EPO Customer Services: +31-70-340 4500 or +49-89-2399 2828 can be contacted.

The attached opinion reveals that the application or the invention to which it relates appear not to meet the requirements of the Convention (see comments on enclosed Form 2906).

If the applicant wishes to continue with this application the examination fee must be paid. Where appropriate amendments can be filed to address the objections raised in the opinion, thus shortening the overall procedure. If no amendments are filed, the opinion will be re-issued as the first official communication under Article 96(2) and Rule 51(2) EPC.

If the examination fee has already been paid and the right to the communication under Article 96(1) EPC has been waived for this application, the first official communication under Article 96(2) and Rule 51(2) EPC will be issued promptly.



The examination is being carried out on the **following application documents**:

Text for the Contracting States:

AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HU IE IT LU MC NL PT RO SE SI SK TR LI

Description, pages:

1-32 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-22 as originally filed

Drawings, sheets:

1/8-8/8 as originally filed

- 1.0 The following document (D1) is referred to in this communication; the numbering will be adhered to in the rest of the procedure:

D1: US 2003/158609 A1 (CHIU TOM) 21 August 2003 (2003-08-21)

- 2.0 The present application does not meet the requirements of Article 52(1) EPC, because the subject-matter of independent claims 1 and 15 is not new in the sense of Article 54(1) and (2) EPC.

- 2.1 Using the wording of claim 1, document D1 discloses (see paragraphs 19 and 20 and fig. 1):

"A battery management system for managing a plurality of subsystem circuits and functions of a mobile communication device powered by a battery, the battery management system comprising:

a battery monitoring circuit operable to monitor a present battery capacity and generate a battery capacity signal based on the present battery capacity;

a user interface operable to receive a user input allocation of a battery capacity among the subsystem circuits and functions; and

a battery management module operable to receive the user input allocation and the battery capacity signal, and selectively to disable each subsystem circuit or



function when each subsystem circuit or function has depleted its allocation of battery capacity".

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore not new (Article 54(1) and (2) EPC).

2.2 The same novelty objection applies to the corresponding method claim 15.

2.3 The applicant should notice that, besides D1, several documents in the Search Report appear to be prejudicial to the novelty and/or the inventive step of independent claims 1 and 15.

3.0 Dependent claims 2-10, 14, 16-18 do not appear to contain any additional features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the EPC with respect to novelty and/or inventive step, as shown in the Search Report.

4.0 The additional features of dependent claims 11-13 and 19-22 are not disclosed in their present form in any of the documents cited in the Search Report. It is suggested therefore that a new independent claim be drafted to include these features.

4.1 The new independent claim should be drafted in the two-part form, with the features known from the prior art placed in the preamble.

4.2 To meet the requirements of Rule 27(1)(b) EPC, the document D1 should be identified in the description and the relevant background art disclosed therein should be briefly discussed.

4.3 The features of the claims should be provided with reference signs placed in parentheses to increase the intelligibility of the claims (Rule 29(7) EPC). This applies to both the preamble and characterising portion (see the Guidelines, C-III, 4.11).

4.4 When filing amended claims the applicant should at the same time bring the description into conformity with the amended claims. Care should be taken during



revision, especially of the introductory portion and any statements of problem or advantage, not to add subject-matter which extends beyond the content of the application as originally filed (Article 123(2) EPC).

- 4.5 In order to facilitate the examination of the conformity of the amended application with the requirements of Article 123(2) EPC, the applicant is requested to clearly identify the amendments carried out, irrespective of whether they concern amendments by addition, replacement or deletion, and to indicate the passages of the application as filed on which these amendments are based.

If the applicant regards it as appropriate these indications could be submitted in handwritten form on a copy of the relevant parts of the application as filed.
